

January 1985
Volume 37 No. 1



Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held January 9th at 7:30pm in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. Please attend and bring a friend.

Our guest speaker will be C.C.C. member Bill Swoger, who will enlighten us on the subject of Bibliophilia.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

A new year. A new beginning - and yet according to Talmudic wisdom - there is nothing new under the sun. Its been through the efforts of many, many people that the Chicago Coin Club has come through its nadir and is on its way up again to new glories and a significant role in the world of numismatics.

Over the last year and a half, we have instituted a number of new programs at our meetings. We now have a strong "Show and Tell" again. We still need more and better research papers. The 800th meeting medal and book are moving along very well. But we have not gone as far as we should with the Junior program and in getting more active Senior members.

What do you want? What kind of speakers program should we have? What ideas do you have for the future of your club? We would like to hear from anyone who has something to say. Please get involved.

800th MEETING MEDAL DESIGN

Obverse: Bust of Janus looking to the past and future. "What's Past is Prologue" is from Shakespears play "The Tempest".

Reverse: The 66 stars represent the number of years since the club was founded.



208 S. LaSalle #1510
Chicago, Illinois 60604
December 13, 1984

Chicago Coin Club
Don Valenziano, Jr. - Editor
Post Office Box 2301
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Don:

I would appreciate your including the following letter to the members in the next Chatter:

Dear Fellow CCC'ers:

Last night (at the Club Christmas Party), when Carl was waxing eloquent with regard to collectors who have plaster molds in their collections, my first thought was that Bill Nawrocki was about to receive another of his favorite type of exnumia! As he went on, I listened with passive interest, wondering who would be so singularly honored by our august organization.

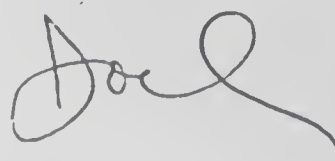
When all of one's likings are satisfied with one gesture, that is indeed an unusual occurrence! To be honored by one's peers is enough - to be presented with an award which has not been easily created or assembled, that, too, is enough - to give recognition to an individual's particular interest (especially when it differs from that which the organization pursues), that is certainly a treat - and to be honored for having done so little and for such a great bunch of exonomists, then one gets a bit wet of the eye and caught up in the throat!

A million THANKS to all of you, especially those who labored to create such a thoughtful and unique award. I will cherish it for the rest of my life!

Joel J. Reznick
(The Head Frog)

OK, Don - there it is! Thank you, too, for the thankless job of putting the Chatter together every month. My very best to you and your wife for a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

Cordially,



Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of December 12, 1984

Following a cocktail party courtesy of Ed Milas of RARCOA, and a dinner organized by Harry X and Tillie Boosel, the 791st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Saul Needleman with 38 members and 9 guests present. The guests for the evening were: ANNE ANASZEWICZ, LILLIAN CHALMER, BESS FLOWER, HAROLD HALE, JUDITH ISENBRANDT, PHYLLIS HONSON, BARBARA MARTIN, SONDRA NEEDLEMAN, and MINNIETTE ODESSER.

A motion was made and passed that the usual order of business be waived. The applications for membership of RONALD LAURENT, SHIRLEY VALENZIANO and KAREN NAWROCKI received second reading. A motion was made and passed that they be accepted into the Club. The application of SONDRA NEEDLEMAN received first reading.

J. Thomas Nolan and William Holm of the Awards Committee presented the following members with 1984 Richard Cabeen Exhibit Awards: ROBERT LEONARD, Silver Award; GEORGE LILL III, Bronze Award; GERARD ANASZEWICZ, HARRY FLOWER, THOMAS MICHELL (absent), SAUL NEEDLEMAN, DAVID SIMPSON and CARL WOLF, Honorable Mention. Mr. Nolan also presented the Junior members with a 1985 Red Book courtesy of John Ross Coin and Stamp and presented BILL GRUNDY with the First Place and Rob Chramosta (absent) with the Second Place Cabeen Exhibit Award in the Junior Category. Carl Wolf presented a framed plaster model of a Mardi Gras Token to JOEL REZNICK in recognition of his generosity for providing the Club with a free meeting room for the past three years.

Richard Hartzog reported on the investigation to find an acceptable company to strike the Club's 800th Meeting Medal. He also announced that the design selected by the members would be submitted to several companies for quotation. President Needleman reported that he was making very favorable progress in securing prominent numismatists to submit articles for the Club's 800th meeting book. He also announced that the book would be titled Prospectives in Numismania.

Prior to the Election of Officers for the 1985-86 term, President Needleman announced that Glen Hudrlik withdrew his nomination for Director as he had recently received a sabbatical leave of absence and would be attending an out-of-state university. A motion was made and passed to elect by acclamation the following officers: President: DR. SAUL B. NEEDLEMAN; First V.P.: GERARD ANASZEWICZ; Second V.P.: GEORGE LILL III; Directors: WILLIAM BAKER and DAVID SIMPSON. The Amendment to the Constitution to create the position of Archivist as published in the last two Chatters was approved unanimously. A balloted election was held for this position between Richard Hartzog and Carl Wolf. George Lill III as teller announced that CARL WOLF was elected. President Needleman also announced that WILLIAM and NANCY BAKER would jointly assume the responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer as January, 1985.

Four unsigned drawings were submitted for consideration for the Club's 800th Meeting Medal. In the subsequent balloting, both the obverse and reverse designs submitted by Carl Wolf were overwhelmingly selected.

Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of December 14, 1984 Continued

Gerard Anaszewicz introduced WILLIAM NAWROCKI who entertained the members with a humorous talk titled "Numismaticitis" and an anecdotal narrative of a slide presentation titled "A Numismatist's Christmas Gift List."

Charles Ricard installed the new Club Officers and asked them to carry on the Club's rich traditions while moving it forward.

The following members won items which were donated for a raffle: David Simpson, Charles Wolf, William Holm, Judith Isenbrandt, Mike Brodsky, Bill Swoger, Don Valenziano, William Baker, George Lill III, Harry Flower, J. Thomas Nolan, Gerard Anaszewicz, Priscilla Grundy, Tom DeLorey, David Kunca, Charles Ricard and Bill Grundy.

At 10:15 P.M. a motion was made and passed that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl F. Wolf
Secretary/Treasurer

THE BIRTHDAY LIST IS COMING BACK

During a recent conversation between two long-time members and the Secretary, the members reminisced about the many members whose names they never hear anymore, what they used to collect and some of their more memorable exhibits. This then led to the question of why we no longer publish a monthly list of birthdays in each issue of the Chatter.

Well, to be perfectly honest, we didn't think anyone cared. It never occurred to us that the list of birthdays was something more than it appeared. So, the Secretary has compiled a monthly birthday list of all our members which will begin appearing in the January issue of the Chatter.

Newer members may find little interest in this list. But, for those who have been with the Club for any period of time, they will no doubt recall many fond memories and numismatic exhibits as they review the list of names each month. All we ask, is that you share these memories with the rest of us in an exhibit or by writing a short paper which our Chatter editor can publish.

Since everyone likes to see their name appear in print, this will be a great way for that to happen at least once a year. There are only ten members whose birthdays we do not have on record, so they appear below with their membership numbers. Our newest member was just assigned number 985. Compare your's to some of these.

Abe Brown 610
O.H. Dodson 542
Aida Farmer 959
Emanuel Frazin 593
Lee F. Hewitt 215

Arthur Kagin 501
Pearl Kopicki 303A
Bruno Marek 256
John Ross 605
Matthew Wojtaszek 481

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Agostino G. Corona, 17 Steffan Goldfreed, 21 Paul R. Whitnah
23 Paul H. Ginther, 26 Jennie Sochon, 29 William Brodsky

February, 1985
Volume 37, No. 2

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor



Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held February 13, at 7:30pm in suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. Please attend and bring a friend. The guest speaker will be C.C.C. member Bill Swoger, who had to reschedule last month, for personal reasons.

CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR

As in previous years our March meeting will be held at the C.I.C.F. The specific room has not been assigned but we will meet Saturday, March 16th at 3pm.

SEEKS DONATIONS

Carl Wolf, director of junior activities for the C.C.C. is requesting donations of numismatic material for use in his program. The first activity of the year will be at the C.I.C.F. so bring your donations to the February meeting. Thanks.

F.U.N. WINNERS

Two C.C.C. members won exhibit awards at the Florida United Numismatists show January 3-6. Harry X. Boosel, first in foreign coins for "Siver Dollars Around the World". Junior member Michael Brodsky won first place awards for his display of "Selected Byzantine Scyphates". Good show guys.

HALF DIME BOOK

Anyone interested in bust half dimes should have in his library a copy of Jules Reivers new book, "Variety Identification Manual for United States Half Dimes 1794-1837". Mr. Reiver has developed an easy method of attribution using four points of reference. The book is priced at \$7.10 postpaid and may be ordered from the author, Mr. Reiver, 1802 Forrest Road, Wilmington, Del. 13810.

DeLOREY DECLARES CANDIDACY

C.C.C. member Thomas K. DeLorey has announced his candidacy for Seat #7 on the A.N.A. board of governors. As a member of the board DeLorey pledges to work for "financial responsibility, expansion of member services and the establishment of professional management for A.N.A. employees". He also states that "I strongly believe the A.N.A. is a great organization; I realistically believe that it can be better".

TAX FREE

Effective January 11, 1985, retail sales of rare coins and bullion, with the exception of Kugerands, are exempt from sales taxes in the state of Illinois.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Tillie Boosel, 4 Roy R. Grundy, 16 Volker E. Dube, 21 William O. Boss, 21 William S. Nawrocki, 25 Walter Perschke.

A HEALTHY VERSUS DYING COIN CLUB

by Carl F. Wolf

Sometimes we hear of different coin clubs that are on the verge of dissolving due to lack of interest. If you were to investigate a little further, however, you will probably find that one person had been doing all the work and when he quit, died or moved away, no one picked up the responsibilities. Or in another instance which has reached my ears of recent, one person holds an inordinate amount of responsibility which he refuses to relinquish. This is just as damaging to a club because the members then feel they have no input into the program, agenda or the goals of the club.

What's the secret to a healthy coin club? Simple - get active! Come to the meetings, yes - but when the Club has some job which needs to be done - volunteer your services. Don't let your club reach the point where one person is doing all the work because he may get transferred to another city tomorrow. And don't let one person greedily grab responsibility because his interests are self serving. Every coin club that remains in healthy operation is that way because it's members are always sharing responsibilities and performing the many tasks which need to be done.

Posted in many offices today is a little story called simply "A Little Story." Some of you may have seen it, but for those who haven't, it's reprinted below.

A LITTLE STORY

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of January 9, 1985

The 792nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by President Saul Needleman with 24 members and 1 guest present. The guest for the evening was Steve Helfer. The minutes of the November and December meetings were read and approved with one correction that the number of unsigned drawings submitted for consideration in the balloting for the 800th meeting medal was not four but six.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved. There was no speaker for the evening due to the cancellation of the scheduled speaker.

President Needleman read an invitation from CICF Coordinator Donn Pearlman for CCC to hold its March meeting on Saturday evening in conjunction with this year's CICF which was accepted.

The application of Sondra Needleman received its second reading. A motion was made and passed that she be accepted into the Club. President Needleman requested every member to bring a guest to a meeting.

A report was given by President Needleman on the Club's 800th meeting book. He indicated that 16 people have already accepted invitations to write chapters. President Needleman announced that George Lill III will now be in charge of the Club's 800th meeting medal. Gerald Anaszewicz introduced Carl Wolf who suggested moving the Club's 800th meeting to a Saturday and having an all-day numismatic event which would consist of speakers on a variety of numismatic subjects during the day and a banquet at night. President Needleman asked for a vote from the members on the proposal. There were no votes against the proposed seminar/banquet 800th meeting.

President Needleman announced that a committee has been nominated to review the Club's by-laws. Other committees have also been nominated with a complete list as follows (an asterisk in front of a person's name indicates that he has primary responsibility for that committee):

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. First Vice President - Jerry Anaszewicz | 8. Grievance - Charles Ricard |
| * Programs - Speakers | 9. Installing Officer - Charles Ricard |
| * Dinner Program | 10. Sargeant-at-Arms - Harry X Boosel |
| Bylaws | 11. Dinner - Harry X & Tillie Boosel |
| Book | 12. Nominations |
| 2. Second Vice President - George Lill III | *Don Valenziano |
| * Exhibits | J. Thomas Nolan |
| * Awards | Dave Simpson |
| * Special Medals (Literary, Merit) | 13. Membership |
| By-Laws | * Richard Martin |
| 3. Archivist - Carl Wolf | Frank Malinowski |
| * Junior Program | 14. Attendance/Registration |
| Medal | *Andrew Michyta |
| * Central States Liaison | Richard Martin |
| 4. Secretary/Treasurer - Bill & Nancy Baker | 15. Financial Audit |
| Finance | *J. Thomas Nolan |
| 5. Public Relations - Dave Simpson | 16. Auction |
| * Club Representative | *Chet Poderski |
| Chatter | Ben Odesser |
| 6. Chatter Editor - Don Valenziano | 17. Book |
| 7. Parliamentarian - Robert Leonard | *Saul B. Needleman |
| * By-Laws | Robert Leonard |
| Book | Jerry Anaszewicz |

18. Medal

*George Lill
Carl Wolf
Tom Delorey

19. Awards

*George Lill
Richard Martin
Joe Tomaski

20. Exhibits

*George Lill
Harry Flower
Stan Kruswicki

21. By-Laws

*Robert Leonard
Saul Needleman
Jerry Anaszewicz

Due to Glenn Hudrlik withdrawing from his nomination for Director, a vote of the Board of Governors will be required to fill the position. There will be a Board meeting on February 2 at President Needleman's residence.

A Motion was made that the minutes not be read at the meeting but instead that the members just be asked at each meeting whether any corrections to the minutes need to be made. Discussion followed and a vote was taken with the motion being rejected.

Harry Flower presented ANA Education Award certificates to Bob Leonard and Saul Needleman for their presentations to the Hillside Coin Club.

The 13 exhibitors for the evening were: (1) Jerry Anaszewicz: Polish coinage issued under Russian Rule; (2) William Baker: A coin of the Vandals imitating Roman coinage; (3) Harry Flower: An Einstein medal; (4) William Grundy: Chinese cash pieces; (5) Glenn Hudrlik: A 1794 large cent; (6) Robert Leonard: Coins with identical counterstamp and some early tax tokens; (7) George Lill III: Similarity between Tetradrachmas of Syracuse and Rhodes; (8) Andrew Michyeta: Several Bohemian talers of the early 1500's; (9) William Nawrocki: Almanacs of 1878 & 1879 containing information on coins; (10) Saul Needleman: Parallels leading to Civil War and English condor tokens; (11) Joel Resnick: Medals of the New York Stock Exchange; (12) Charles Ricard: An original and restrike of Castorland medals; (13) Carl Wolf: Coins waiting to be discovered by numismatists.

Respectfully submitted,

William and Nancy Baker
Secretary/Treasurer

CORRESPONDENCE FROM NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS

In the process of submitting their 1985 dues, three Non-Resident Members sent along additional correspondence. Michael Dolnick was kind enough to send a medal for our Annual Banquet Raffle and Richard Yeoman (Mr. Red Book) expressed his wish to all the members for a Happy New year. Gerda Birkholz writes that she is busy with many different activities in Florida and wrote that she would be at another party the evening of our banquet, but she would drink a toast to all the C.C.C. folks. She goes on to write "Don't stop your displays at the meetings! I'm one of a very few who continue to practice here. Most want to sell coins at the monthly auction." So much for the great coin clubs of Florida. Carl Wolf

THE ALBERT EINSTEIN HOBO NICKELS



1.



2.



3.



4.

In my world-wide quest for the medals of Albert Einstein, I had written to a producer of Hobo nickels to find out if there any of this scientist. This producer, Ms. J. Allen of 2261 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14618, answered that she did not have any and sent me her illustrated list of 65 varieties that did not include Einstein. She wrote that if I would send her a portrait of the famous scientist, she would try to produce one for me.

not

Before we go on, for the benefit of those who are familiar with the term "Hobo Nickel", I will try to explain. Simply stated, these are the reengraved Indian heads on the Buffalo type United States nickels. The original obverse (Fig. 1) and the original reverse (Fig. 2) are illustrated above. Originally, most of the earlier examples were made by Hobo artists and depicted the head of a Hobo, hence the name "Hobo Nickel". Most of these earlier examples depicted the Hobo with a beard and wearing a derby. Now, this name is given to almost any reengraved nickel. This fad of reshaping the Indian's head probably reached its peak during the Great Depression; today, the earlier ones are quite scarce and the more recent issues are getting more and more popular.

The more recent Hobo nickels depict various mythological, historical and vocational characters. Among these Hobo nickel characters are Santa Claus, Uncle Sam, Daniel Boone, Poncho Villa, a soldier, a sailor, a Rabbi, a shriner, a Canadian Mountie, a clown, a cowboy and many, many more. As each piece is individually made, no two examples are the same, even of the same character. Note the difference of the above two Einstein pieces (Fig. 3 and 4).

As this is a numismatic article, it should be numismatically complete; to accomplish this, the following data will be added:

Hobo

DATE OF ISSUE: First Einstein Nickel made August 1984.
 DESIGNER & PRODUCER: The original Buffalo Nickels were designed by James Earle Fraser and were struck at the U.S. Mints in Denver, Philadelphia and San Francisco from 1913 to 1938. The new reengraved pieces (Fig. 3 & 4) were made by Ms. J. Allen of Rochester, N.Y.
 METAL: Copper 75% and nickel 25%.
 EDGE: Plain
 SIZE & WEIGHT: 21.2 mm.; 5 grams.
 OBVERSE: In the above examples (Fig. 3 & 4), the obverse features the engraved likeness of Albert Einstein to the right. Along the rim at about 1:00 o'clock is the original "LIBERTY", and in the exergue is the date of the original coin. A tiny incuse "F", the designer's initial of the original coin, is beneath the date.
 REVERSE: This is the reverse of the original Buffalo Nickel (Fig. 2). Featured in the center is a buffalo, or, to be correct, a bison. Counterstamped in tiny letters on the buffalo is "J.ALLEN", the producer of the above Einstein pieces. Curved at the top rim is "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" and just beneath in 3 lines is "E PLURIBUS UNUM". Below in the exergue is the denomination "FIVE CENTS". Just beneath, in some examples, is a tiny "D" or "S", the mintmark of the Denver and San Francisco Mints; no mintmark indicates that the coin was produced by the Philadelphia Mint.

Harry Flower

The following article appeared in the February, 1917 issue of The Numismatist and is reprinted here courtesy of the American Numismatic Association.

The First Currency of the West

(The following extract, sent by Mr. Waldo C. Moore, is from the first chapter, or Part I, of "Cincinnati in 1859," by Charles Cist, and throws an interesting sidelight on the character of the currency in circulation at the time of which he writes. Mr. Cist was the author of three volumes descriptive of Cincinnati in 1841, 1851 and 1859.)

In the early days of Cincinnati, as throughout the whole west, considerable difficulty existed in making change. The first currency was raccoon and other skins. This lasted but a short time, the establishment of the garrison and the campaigns against the Indians bringing a fair supply of specie into the country. This being, however, either gold or Spanish dollars, did not relieve the natural difficulty of making change in the same currency. In this perplexity the early settlers coined cut money - that is to say, the dollar was cut into four equal parts, worth twenty-five cents each, or again divided for twelve-and-a-half-cent pieces. This was soon superseded by a new and more profitable emission, from the same mint, which formed an additional quarter, or two additional eighths to pay the expense of coinage. This last description of change, which was nicknamed "sharp skins," from its wedge-shape, became speedily as redundant as were the dimes of 1841, when they ceased to pass eight and nine for a dollar, and of course equally unpopular.

I remember, as late as 1806, that the business house in Philadelphia in which I was apprentice, received over one hundred pounds of cut silver, brought on by a Kentucky merchant, which went up on a dray, under my care, to the United States mint for re-coinage, greatly to the loss and vexation of the western merchant. Smaller sums than twelve and a half cents were given out, by the retailers of goods, in pins, needles, writing paper, etc. Bartle, who kept store on the site of the Cincinnati Hotel, had a barrel of copper coins, brought out in 1794, which so exasperated his brother store-keepers that they had almost mobbed him; and the same feeling of contempt for copper money existed here in those days, which even yet exposes a store-keeper to insult in offering them to a certain description of customers.

All kinds of merchandise were high in price, and in demand at Fort Washington. The army was cantoned at Hobson's Choice, just below where Park street now is. Money plenty; - the currency, with the exception of some specie, was all of the paper of the old Bank of the United States. A great proportion of the circulation was in bills of three dollars, three dollars being then the monthly pay of a private soldier. It was a common expression, with the troops, to call the bank bills "oblongs." This was more especially the case at the gambling tables. Gambling was much practiced among the officers and retainers of the army.



March, 1985
Volume 37, No. 3
Don Valenziano, Jr., Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair. The date is changed from our regular night to Saturday, March 16th at 3pm. Please attend and bring a friend. The guest speaker this month will be Andy Singer, his topic is Numismatic Names; A Systematic Approach.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1-Charlotte Nagy, 2-Ann Williams, 3-Jean Bradfield, 4-Edgar Keller and Jules Marshfield, 7-James Budd and Bruno Rzepka, 8- Louis Bergmann, 10-Andrew Oberbilling, 11- George Lill III, 16-Michawl Brodsky, Gregory Gaskill and Joe Tomasko, 19-Charles Ricard, 20-Sidney Bick, 23-Eileen Peterson, 25-David Silberman, 29-Arthur Allen and Nancy Wilson, 31-Andrew Michyeta.

NEW SIGNATURE FOR U.S. NOTES

Recently Confirmed as Treasury-Secretary, James A. Baker III has submitted samples of his autograph to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for use on the Series 1985 Federal Reserve Notes. The new varieties should begin appearing in April.

E.A.C. CONVENTION

The Early American Coppers Club will hold its annual convention April 12-14th at the Ramada Inn O'Hare, Mannheim and Higgins Roads. The show features an educational forum on Friday evening with C.C.C. member Donn Pearlman speaking on Connecticut Colonial Coinage at 7pm. A bourse of over thirty dealers will be open to the public. If you have an interest in the early coinage of our country you should visit this convention.

TREATISE ON DIMES

The John Reich Collectors Society has recently published "Early United States Dimes 1796-1837". Co-authored by Davis, Logan, Subjack, Lovejoy, and McCloskey. The 279 page well illustrated work is a comprehensive study on the subject. The book is priced at \$40.00 postpaid, and may be ordered from the Society at P.O. Box 205, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

SUSIE B's FOR SALE

In an attempt to satisfy collector demand, the Mint is selling Susan B. Anthony dollar sets by mail. Each plastic-sealed set contains 1979 and 1980 dated uncirculated examples from the

Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco mints. To order, send a check for \$10.00 per set to the United States Mint, P.O. Box 500, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

BUSS' SALE

Late in January the Jerry H. Buss collection was sold at auction in Los Angeles CA. His 1913 Liberty Head Nickel brought \$385,000. The 1804 Silver Dollar was purchased by C.C.C. member Aubrey Bebee for \$308,000. Another rarity, an 1894-S Dime sold for \$50,600.

The 793rd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:37 on February 13th by President Needleman. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved with the following correction; that the membership had merely voted to "persue" the possibility of an educational forum and an evening banquet. Guests David Henkle and John Kelley were introduced with the 1st reading for Mr Kelley being made. Main speaker for the evening, Mr Harry Flower, gave a talk on the variety of collectable objects available within numismatics. President Needleman announced the results of the Feb 2nd board meeting which were to proceed with the 800th meeting medal, book and banquet but to discontinue further action on the idea of an educational forum. George Lill III made a progress report on the 800th meeting medal at which time Andy Michyeta suggested that he might have accessibility to the needed sources to help with the production of the medal. President Needleman reported on the progress of the the 800th book as to acceptances by various chapter authors. Membership was again reminded that the March meeting shall not be held on the usual 2nd Wednesday but in deference to Chicago International Coin Fair shall be held on Saturday the 16th of March at 3:00 PM (please check notice board at CICF) in a meeting room to be announced. The Club moved and seconded sponsering Tom DeLorey in his bid for a seat with the American Numismatic Association. The Club moved and seconded changing previous policy which had prevented sponsering anyone except a club member in their bids for ANA positions. The exhibitors for the evening were: Gerald Anaszewicz with coins of Medieval Bohemia, Harry Flower with two Einstein medals, David Henkle with the '84 reprint of "Las Monedas Obsidionales Hispano-Americanas" by Jose Medina, George Lill III with US 1870 pattern and proof silver dollar, Drew Michyeta with an 1834 Anhalt-Bernberg 1834 thaler, Saul Needleman with a display of US error coinage and Charles Ricard with a copy of America's first official medal, the "Washington before Boston". The Club moved and seconded to adjourn the March meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Lill III
Acting Recording Secretary

When a Treasury Clerk Put His Own Face Forward

By W.H. EARLE

Recent physical changes in the currencies of the United Kingdom and Japan have aroused predictable grumbling in those countries, and the hard-to-counterfeit parti-colored cash that the Treasury Department is now considering will undoubtedly evoke the same reaction here if it is issued this year.

None of these contemporary currency controversies comes close to the queerest of all such conflicts, however—when a U.S. Treasury clerk put his own face on the U.S.'s money.

During the Civil War, the cash-strapped federal government decided to issue paper money, or greenbacks. This "fiat money" eased the government's immediate problem, but it also, a la Gresham's law, caused disappearance of all "hard" money—including small coins.

Merchants compensated for vanished coins by issuing goods-redeemable vouchers or tokens as change, but the government felt obliged to issue its own "fractional currency." In their haste, however, and in the absence of appropriate dies or plates, Treasury officials proposed using something like postage stamps to supply the need.

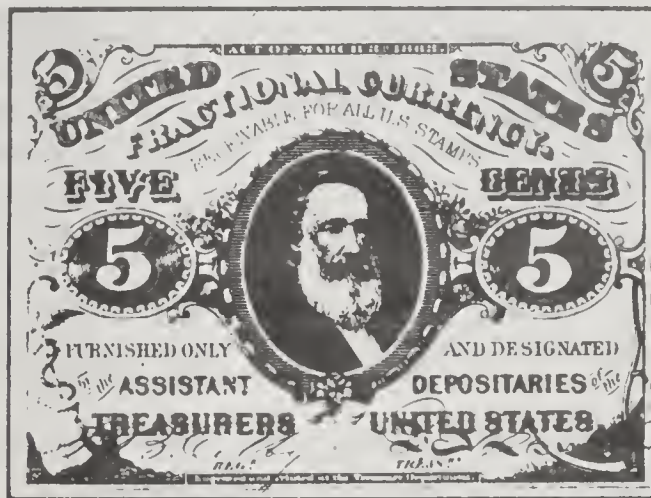
The Treasury was talking about something like stamps—on heavy bank-note paper, without stickum—but stamps is what change-starved Americans heard. A run on the post office began, and it was actual stamps that went into circulation.

However, stamps are far from ideal as day-to-day currency—as anyone can discover by taking a stamp outside on a rainy or humid day and rubbing it briefly.

As one scholar commented later, "Physically these glue-coated bits of paper were the worst form of currency ever used by a civilized people." Or, as a contemporary newspaper put it, "[The] fractional currency in circulation is of a character exceedingly obnoxious to decent people—

filthy, ragged, sticky and altogether disgusting."

Ingenious holders and paste-on cards for fractional currency were eventually devised, and the Treasury's glueless version eventually appeared, but the grubby little notes never were much good. Still, the government couldn't do without them. Consequently, Spencer Clark was named to supervise the production of new issuances. The hustling, ambitious Clark was an



obvious choice. Originally hired to cut individual greenbacks out of sheets with scissors and sign them, it was the bored Clark who suggested using facsimile signatures and mass shearing devices. Facsimile signatures may seem obvious to anyone who has ever signed a few hundred dollars' worth of traveler's checks, but both ideas seemed ingenious at the time, and Clark's advancement was the result.

At first, he did well. The vignettes of Washington and the representation of Justice that he used on some notes were unexceptionable, and no one objected either to portraits of the U.S. treasurer and the secretary of the treasury: Both were substantial public figures, and people were accustomed to similar portraits of bank officers on notes from private banks.

But when Clark put his own face on the five-cents note early in 1866, people took

exception (seen in actual size nearby). It quickly was said that Clark's paper money really was brass—the brass being Clark's. In denouncing the presumption of the "modest clerk," the New York Times sniffed that people would not like having "the head of a very ordinary bureau clerk thrust under their nose every time they get change from a conductor. There is a limit to human endurance, most assuredly."

When the finger-pointing started, Clark insisted that his superiors had authorized his action. They hotly denied it. To this day, no one really knows what happened, but it is entirely possible that Clark was a mite big for his britches—and might even have secured his "authorization" by letting his superiors think that the "Clark" whose portrait was in question was Comptroller of the Currency Freeman Clarke.

In any event, Clark succeeded in printing and issuing 220,000 five-cent pieces with his picture on them—\$11,000 worth—before he was stopped. Oddly enough, he managed to keep his job, but he was doubtless chagrined when an irritated Congress responded to his escapade by banning portraits of living persons from U.S. currency. His day in the sun over, Clark returned to obscurity to die in 1890 at the age of 80.

Clark became eligible to appear on currency long ago, but no one since his death has proposed reviving his old portrait, and Clark himself is nothing more now than a footnote to history.

However, his time may be coming round. If the Treasury does approve multi-colored Monopoly money in the future, George Washington will look decidedly out of place amid the rainbow-hued tropical plumage. The center panel of a piece of play money cries out not for the Father of our Country, but, indeed, for a mere footnote to history.

A portrait of Spencer Clark—grinning broadly, of course—will look right at home.

Mr. Earle is a writer in Baltimore.

COIN WORLD, Wednesday, March 6, 1985

Lincoln had CSA note at death

President Abraham Lincoln had a Confederate note in his pocket when shot. The contents of Lincoln's pockets on the night he was assassinated are on display now in the Li-

brary of Congress' Great Hall, second floor, Thomas Jefferson Building, Washington, D.C.

The Confederate \$5 bill may have been acquired as a souvenir when Lincoln visited Petersburg and Richmond earlier in the month. He returned from that trip, made at Gen. U.S. Grant's request, on April 9 to a Washington, D.C., crowd celebrating Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender. Lincoln was shot April 14, 1865.

Other items on display include gold-rimmed spectacles with sliding temples and with one of the bows mended with

string; one pair of folding spectacles in a silver case; an ivory pocket knife with silver mounting; watch fob; handkerchief with "A. Lincoln" embroidered in red cross-stitch; sleeve button with gold initial L in dark blue enamel; brown leather wallet with a pencil, and compartments for notes, U.S. currency and railroad tickets. The wallet held the Confederate note and nine newspaper clippings with complimentary remarks about Lincoln.

The articles will be on display throughout the spring.

Worn out notes

The paper money in circulation increases by about 5 percent per year. Ninety-five percent of the notes printed each year are used to replace notes already in circulation, which wear out or are otherwise unfit for circulation.

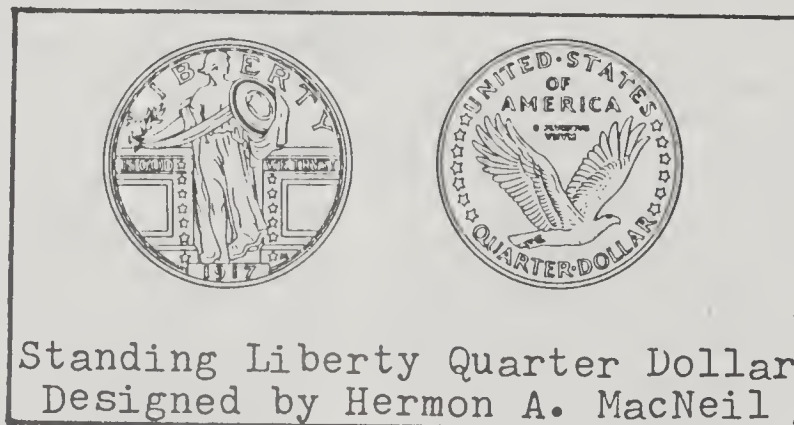
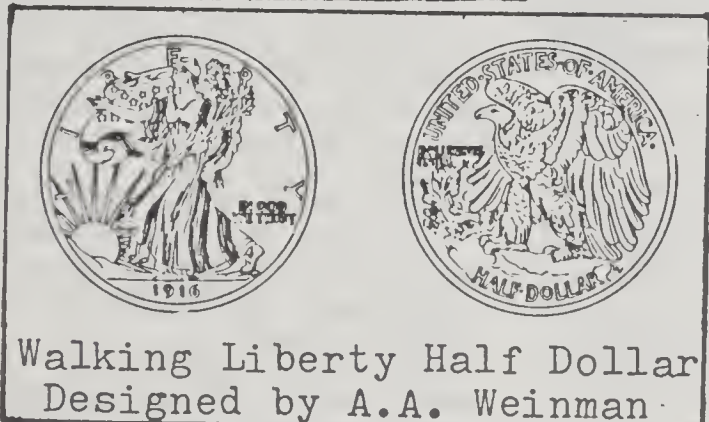
The Walking Liberty Half & Standing Liberty Quarter Dollar

By Carl F. Wolf

Whenever the model of a new coinage design is released, a certain amount of criticism naturally follows. This fact is well illustrated with the recent release of the new numismatic portrait of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1916 the U.S. simultaneously released the designs of the Walking Liberty Half and Standing Liberty Quarter Dollar, which many of today's collectors consider the most beautiful designs ever to be struck on a coin. The Editor of the Numismatist stated in the January 1917 issue that "the new designs form the most attractive set of silver coins ever issued by this or any other government," and he invited brief comments from the readers to be published in the February issue.

Reprinted courtesy of the American Numismatic Association is one of the more interesting letters received in response to this invitation. As the letter reveals, you just can't please everyone. The illustrations are from the Official A.N.A. Grading Standards for United States Coins.



To the Editor of The Numismatist:

The obverse of the new half and quarter dollars are beautiful and very artistic. The appearance of the half-dollar could have been improved, however, by a few minor changes, but it would require too much space to explain in a short criticism. The logical position of the rising sun is on the right side of the coin but this would require a reversal of the figure of Liberty and hide the left arm. The obverse of the quarter-dollar to me appears perfect in every detail.

The eagles on the reverses are both faulty; artistic but not natural. Mr. Weinman's eagle has long legs and wears feather chaps, from shoulder joint to end of tail extremity long, wings if folded would reach beyond the tail, end of wings rounded and the feathers impossible, and the left wing in an impossible position.

Mr. MacNeil's eagle: The body is much too light and to a less degree short; the wings in excellent position, but the feathers of the wing are in wrong position, and a curved line is added to the last joint of the right wing. The feathers of the wing should be spread as in a fan and curved a little downward. The wings should be more pointed. Although the fourth primary is the longest, it is inserted in the wing nearer the body. The feathers in the tip of the right wing are turned upward, as is correct, from the pressure of the air against them, but those of the left wing are turned downward. A little study of ornithology and a visit to a zoological garden would have benefitted both these artists.

Lebanon, PA, January 18, 1917

Geo. R. Ross

Evanston, Illinois, First Settled
By The Apparent Use of Counterfeit Coins
by
Roy Grundy

Did you know that the present city of Evanston was first settled, against the pioneer's intentions and wishes, all because he was accused of using counterfeit coins?

Stephen J. Scott was his name and he and his family were reportedly summarily put off the schooner Sheldon lock, stock, and barrel upon the beach near the present day light house at Gross Point Park in Evanston on August 26, 1826. Captain Sherwood of the Sheldon carried out this demeaning act, according to several author, because Scott paid for the family's passage with counterfeit coins.

First let's turn to the recorded account and then try to figure out what prevailing counterfeit coins might Scott have employed in his use.

The first known published account of the Scott episode appeared, without a byline, in the Evanston Press, August 2, 1901 - seventy-five years after the Scotts came ashore at Grosse Point. The relevant portion of this article is as follows: "They were a family named Scott, who had started from Buffalo on a schooner for the trading post of Chicago. On the voyage . . . the father has gambled heavily, had been caught using loaded dice, and had offended the captain, not only by winning his good money, but had paid his passage with spurious coins". According to the The New English Dictionary "spurious" means - "superficially resembling or simulating, but lacking the genuine character or qualities of something: not true or genuine: false, sham, counterfeit."

At this point it is not my intention to try to refute or support this historical numismatic oddity, but to take the story on face value and try to determine what counterfeit coins Scott might have used to pay for his family's passage from Buffalo to Chicago.

Fairly reliable sources suggest \$13 per person was the fare for passage from Buffalo to Chicago in 1826. The Scotts were seven and seven times thirteen (7 x 13) equals \$91. With this large a fare Scott probably didn't use the small denomination copper coins, but rather silver or gold coinage. In 1825 there weren't very many counterfeit American coins, at least in any quantity. If Scott had some they probably weren't silver, but more likely gold coins. There were a fair number of counterfeit gold coins. Interestingly, "there were gold coins that had been cut in two, the gold scooped out, and some other metal, usually platinum (which was very inexpensive at the time), put inside. The two halves when then joined together to make a fairly good looking coin. This may fall under the category of "spuious coinage", in that once it was altered it was no longer a coin of the realm, and was just worth its gold content."¹

¹Correspondence with Jeff Rock, Santee, CA. April 2, 1984

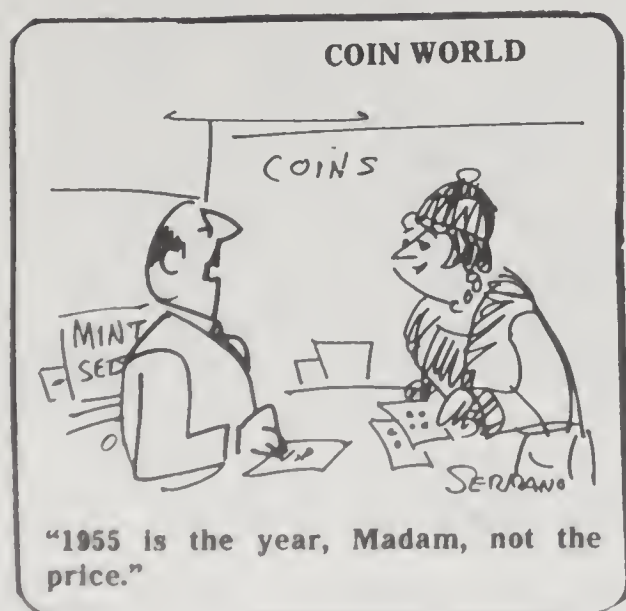
Then one must take into consideration that until 1857 many foreign coins circulated in the United States, many at a fixed rate. The Spanish Milled Dollar is probably the best example of this. It is conceivable that any payment may have included a few foreign coins, and the number of these that were counterfeit absolutely boggles the mind. The coinage of France, England and Spain seem to be the most counterfeited, some of which was made in the colonies some time before, and some of which was imported, possibly by unscrupulous merchants who wished to increase their margin of profit.

If Scott used counterfeit coins to pay his gambling debt precipitated by his use of loaded dice, the story becomes rather intriguing. Scott set out for Chicago from Unadella, New York, not too far from Newburgh, New York, home of Thomas Machin's Famous Machin's Mills. Machin's Mills was an early American mint notorious for making counterfeit English halfpence or more simply Machins. Bob Vlack described these coins in 1974 when he published "Early English Counterfeit Halfpence Struck In American". Could it have been that Scott was a jobber for Machin's Mills? A jobber was a person who takes a quantity of counterfeit coins, at a sizable discount, and puts them into circulation while realizing a sizable profit. Perhaps, perhaps not, and more likely probably not.

Probably not, because other eminent history sources cite Scott as actually intending to settle in Gross Point of his own free will.

A.T. Andreas, in his "History of Chicago" (1884) writes "Stephan Scott started for the West intending to settle at St. Joe, Michigan, but on arriving at that place, concluded to cross to Chicago. The schooner, bringing his family and effects, arrived at Chicago, August 20, 1826. After looking about the country in the vicinity a little, he decided to settle at Grosse Point, and departed for that place with his family by schooner, sending word to his son Willard, who had remained behind with a portion of the goods to bring them to Grosse Point."

Thus, in conclusion, while the counterfeiting story still lives on in the annals of Evanston history, it appears to this writer that the story is just not true.





APRIL, 1985
Volume 37, No. 4

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held April 10th at 7:30 pm in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. Please attend and bring a friend. The guest speaker will be C.C.C. member William Swoger, his topic 'Bibliophilia'.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

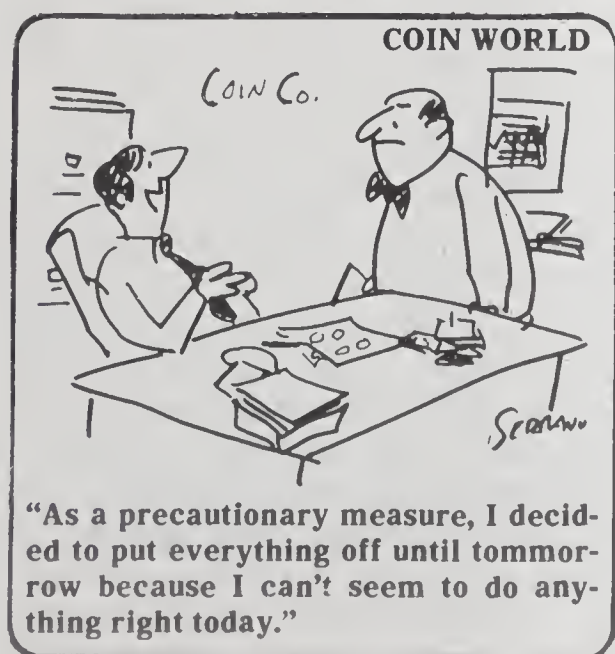
1-Charles Ryant, 3-Minnie Marshfield, 8-Joseph O'Conner, 11-Leif Ronning, 13-Kelith Weddell, 15-Robert Leonard, 16-Rolf Knauz, 26-Arlie Slabaugh, 27-Don Valenziano Jr., 29-Sondra Needleman, 30-J. Nolan.

PEARLMAN DECLARES

C.C.C. member Donn Pearlman has announced his candidacy for the A.N.A. Board of Governors seat #5.

ADVERTISING AVAILABLE

With the recent increase in postage expenses it is costing the C.C.C. more to publish the Chatter than the current dues bring in. To make up this shortage the Board of Governors has decided to allow the Editor to sell advertising space. We would like to start by offering members a twenty-five (25) word classified ad for \$1.00 per issue. Your clear copy and check must be received at the Club's P.O. Box by the 20th of the month, to be included in the next issue.



THE ORIGIN OF "PIN MONEY"

by Carl F. Wolf

New Year's Day to the ancient Romans was a time to celebrate, exchange greetings and give gifts known as strenae (in honor of Strenia, the goddess of strength). After a time, this gift giving found it's way into the political arena. Roman aristocracy competed with each other in showering the emperor with great gifts. All of this was done in the hope of receiving favorable political and social treatment during the year.

This tradition spread across Europe and was adopted by the English monarchy as a way of enriching their purses. Queen Elizabeth depended upon receiving these gifts each New Year to add to her jewel collection and replenish her wardrobe.

With the royalty as an example, the English commoner took up this New Year's tradition. Pins and gloves were considered luxury items and were therefore often given. When the money these items would have cost was given as a substitute, the term "pin money" or the rarely used term "glove money" was created.

Credit for the above article is given to PostScript, Jan. 1985.

The 794th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 3:07 PM on March 16th by 1st VP Gerard Anaszewicz who announced that due to the activities of the CICC show most normal business would be postponed until the April meeting. A cordial welcome was extended to the numerous guests who helped to fill the room to overflowing its capacity of some 50 people. The February minutes were read and approved. First reading for membership was made for Dominic Garetto; second reading for John Kelley was made with the Club moving and seconding the extension of membership to him. Our guest speaker, Mr Andy Singer, was introduced and proceeded to inform the packed audience of the fascinating study involved in researching the study of names as given to many coins of the world. Speakers awards were presented to William Nawrocki and John Wilson for past presentations. Exhibits for the afternoon were: Gerard Anaszewicz with a piece of Russian wire money from Pskov, Harry Flower with 4 different Bryan dollar pieces, George Lill III with a bowl showing 400 years of Bolivian coinage, William Swoger with a counterfeit 1646 Irish pistole, John Wilson with 2 Ming dynasty mulberry bark paper notes and...last but not least, Nancy Wilson with a 1939 Central States Numismatic Society token issued by CCC member J Henry Ripstra. The Club archivist displayed for membership viewing an original telegram from B Max Mehl informing the CCC of the success of the June '41 Dunham auction with the highlights being the 1804 silver dollar and the 1822 ten dollar gold piece. Additionally, a silver loving cup as presented to the Club by the ANA for having had the greatest club attendance at the '42 Cincinnati convention was shown by Mr Wolf. It was moved and seconded by the membership to adjourne the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Lill III
Acting Secretary

May, 1985
Volume 37, No. 5

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor



Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held May 8th at 7:30 PM in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. Please attend and bring a friend. Our guest speaker will be Bob Greenstein and his subject is Coinage of Palestine and Israel.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2-Donn Pearlman, 8-Stanley Kruswicki, 10-James Sunderland and Marty Vink, 11-Ronald Laurent and Karne Nawrocki, 12-Alan Pierson, 13- William Higginbotham, 17-Shirley Valenziano, 25-Walter White, 28-Rob Chramosta, 30-Charles Wolf.

The following article appeared in the August, 1917 issue of The Numismatist and is reprinted here through the courtesy of the American Numismatic Association.

The Advantages of Square Money

A movement is said to be on foot for the introduction of square money into this country. Whether it will come to anything remains to be seen; but there are some who claim that the idea certainly has it's advantages.

What would these advantages be? Well, for one thing, it is claimed that the mint authorities would save an appreciable amount of packing, from the well known fact that square money will fit into a square box with less waste of space than will round. This also applies to the case of all large traders and bankers, who have to dispatch large quantities of bullion every month.

The private individual will probably be more interested in the matter when he hears that the gross total of money lost every year in this country through coins dropped amounts to many thousands of dollars. This is largely due to the fact that round coins, when they fall to the ground, are apt to roll into unlikely places, from which they are never recovered. A square coin would lie dead where it pitched.

In China coins are pierced with a square hole in the centre. In this way they can be strung together and carried without fear of loss. Might we not learn a lesson from the Orient in this?

Another argument in favor of square coins is urged by artists, who declare that it is almost impossible to get a really artistic design "in the round" when so little space is allowed. A rectangular coin, they say, would give the designer a real chance to distinguish himself. -Exchange

The 795th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:38 PM by President Needleman on April 10th. The March minutes were read and approved with the following correction; the the 1822 \$10.00 gold coin should have been listed as a \$5.00 coin. Guests for the evening; Ed Dey, Steve Helfer, Paul Kruk, Brian Letterman and Ruta Ratajczyk were introduced to the membership with 1st readings for membership being made for Messrs. Dey, Helfer and Kruk. Second reading for Mr Garetto was made with membership being approved by the Club. Mention of the deficit operation of the Club was made by the President with requests of the various committee heads to submit anticipated budget figures for the coming year. 800th Meeting reports were made pertaining to the anticipated plans for the banquet, medal and possible book which shall be decided upon by Sept. 1st. Our guest speaker for the evening, William Swoger, was introduced and proceeded into his topic of "Bibliophilia" or the study of numismatics as seen thru books, catalogs and lists of the Greats in the past history of collecting. The Membership discussed, voted and approved the sponsering of Don Pearlman and George Beach in their bids as ANA representatives. CCC bulletins from March and June of 1937 were shown as part of the archival report. the exhibits for the evening were: (4) coins of Pskov Russia, restrikes of the Continental dollar and Washington born Virginia pieces in relation to recent dealer ads, an 18th century Katangan copper cross and a 20th century Katangan cross gold coin, an 1804 Irish crown and a 1901 Kirin crown, farthings of Charles I, George V and George VI as well as a Victoria token used as money, a soldiers home token and an note of the Bank of the US, (3) unusual encased coins, an 1878 \$3.00 gold "Princess" and an 1849 bank-note of Montrose. The Membership moved and seconded to adjourne the meeting for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Lill III
Acting Secretary

COIN WORLD, Wednesday, May 1, 1985

\$1 million sale of coins

Proceedings related to the bankruptcy of Joe Flynn Rare Coins Inc., Kansas City, Kan., have been completed with the \$1 million sale of the firm's coin inventory to Rare Coin Company of America Inc. of Chicago, Ill.

Joe Flynn Rare Coins Inc. closed Aug. 24, 1984, when the firm filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy code.

Under Chapter 11 a company continues to operate but seeks court protection against creditor lawsuits while it tries to work out a plan for paying debts.

Joseph M. Flynn, owner of the firm, said at a creditors' meeting Nov. 6 in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Kan-

sas, that lack of operating capital forced the closing of the business.

MidAmerican Bank and Trust Co. of Shawnee Mission, Kan., called notes totaling more than \$1 million. MidAmerican Vice President Thomas Owens in September said the chief reason for calling the loan was that Flynn had violated terms of a security agreement by pledging the same assets, his inventory of coins, to MidAmerican and Twin City State Bank of Kansas City, Kan.

At a hearing in bankruptcy court, Owens testified that the 90-day renewable notes were not in default.

Gene DeLeve, Flynn's attorney, said MidAmerican's no-

tice to call the notes was "unexpected." DeLeve said payments to the bank and other creditors were not in arrears, and the filing for bankruptcy was Flynn's "only alternative" when MidAmerican served notice that it was demanding payment in full.

In 1983, Flynn borrowed \$1.5 million from MidAmerican and had reduced the principal by \$150,000 at the time of filing the bankruptcy petition. Flynn had also borrowed \$600,000 from Twin City, which had been reduced by \$100,000. According to DeLeve, Flynn also borrowed \$240,000 from Barbara Wirth Flynn of Leawood, Kan., Flynn's mother.

While both MidAmerican

and Twin City claimed a security interest in the collateral, the agreement was first made with MidAmerican, DeLeve said.

Steve Ivy of Heritage Rare Coin Galleries in Dallas, Texas, was called by MidAmerican to appraise Flynn's coin inventory in September. Ivy estimated the coins would bring about \$1 million at public auction, about \$1.7 million over several years of retail sales, and less than \$1 million wholesale.



June 1985
Volume 37, NO. 6

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held June 12th at 7:30 pm in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. The guest speaker will be C.C.C. member Don Valenziano Jr., His topic Colonial Massachusetts Half Cents. Please attend and bring a friend.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3-Edgar Lister, 11-Joseph Hudson, 12-Rosalind Ryant, 13-Dale Gartin, 17-Elaine Pierson, 22-Paul Ingelman, 26-Joseph Merkel, 27-James Simek.

AUCTION FEVER

The August meeting will be auction night! This year there will be a combined member/club benefit auction. NO COMMISSIONS will be charged! Instead, members are encouraged to donate worthwhile numismatic material to be auctioned off with the proceeds going to the club. It is hoped that each consignor will donate at least one lot for the club's benefit. Tax deductible receipts will be available for any donations.

The rules are:

1. Consignments accepted immediately up till the August meeting. Consignors need not be present.
2. Only members may consign; anyone present in August may bid - no mail bids.
3. The auctioneer reserves the right to limit or combine lots.
4. Realistic minimum bids are accepted or the consignor may bid on their own lots.

Consignments accepted by Gerard Anaszewicz, Saul Needleman, or George Lill III.

CCC at CENTRAL STATES

Once again CCC member Nancy Wilson has taken the best of show exhibit award, this time at the Central States Numismatic Society convention. Also, winning an award for their exhibits were Harry X Boosel and Dominic Garetto.

CANADIAN BOOK

"Coins of Canada" a comprehensive guide book by James A. Haxby and ~~Robert~~ C. Willey has just been released in a sixth edition. Messrs, Haxley and Willey are two of the most respected researchers and authors on Canadian coinage. The book is filled with a wealth of historical details. At the same time, it provides current market values in eight levels of condition. The book is priced at \$3.95 and is available at most coin shops and many book stores.

The 796th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on May 8th at 7:30 PM by President Needleman. The guests for the evening: Chris Smith and Dr & Mrs Melom were introduced to the membership. The April minutes were read and approved with the addition that the audit report for 1984 had been approved by the membership. Due to complications the treasurer's report for April was unavailable. The guest speaker for the evening, Robert Greenstein, was introduced and proceeded to inform the club of the coinage of Palestine and Israel. Second readings for membership for Messrs. Ed Dey, Steve Helfer and Paul Kruk were made with the members extending membership to them. First readings were made for John Burkard and Peter Jorstad. The 800th Book report was made with the information that we were looking at a 5-6 thousand expense for a soft cover edition and an 11-12 thousand expense for a hard cover edition, a printer has been found, many chapters have been submitted for printing and an anonymous donor had been found to cover a large portion of the printing expense. The 800th Banquet report indicated that the ANA had notified us of their intention to hold an educational forum in conjunction with the timing of the banquet. The 800th Medal report indicated that final selection of the manufacturer, quantity, and cost had been determined and was submitted to the membership for approval which was granted for the initial production of the dies to commence being made. A speakers award was made in abstencia to Wm Swoger. It was approved to make a \$25.00 donation to the ANA in memory of past CCC members. The Archival report for the evening was made around a photo of CCC members from Nov, 1946 and a letter from the California Coin Club, dated Nov, 1944, asking Chicago to extend all due courtesies to two Cal visiting members. A request was made for the donation of materials for the August meeting. Mr Harry X Boosel reported on the ANA mid winter San Antonio convention. Exhibits for the evening were: a 1985 Canadian Proof set, a chicken coop token of Israel, 2 Civil war tokens of Sandwich, IL which helped to correct an error in Fuld's book on Civil war tokens along with a History of the Sandwich, IL bank, an 1887 silver dollar, 2 1960 quarters made into souvenir medals, a 1905 Danish West Indies 20 Franc-4 Dalers gold coin, 4 English coins with pamphlets and pieces of the actual locations where made, a 1764 3 Gulden of West Friesland and an ANA 1891-1991 button, a thick and thin speciman of the Norse American Commorative medals, plaster plaques of two different 1873 coins and a copper coin of Russia overstruck on a previously unknown coin. The Membership moved and seconded adjourning the meeting for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Lill III
Acting Secretary

Young Astronaut medals sought

The minting of medals in gold, silver and bronze commemorating a national Young Astronaut Program would be authorized by a bill introduced in the House of Representatives May 22 by Rep. Frank Annunzio, D-Ill.

The Young Astronaut Council was created to increase student competency in mathematics and science in elementary and junior high schools across the nation by capitalizing on the excitement of the U.S. space program.

Annunzio's measure would authorize striking up to 750,000 medals for sale to the public. The council would pay the U.S. Mint the cost of manufacture plus a 10 percent surcharge.

Russian wire money need not be intimidating - rather it is challenging and rewarding. The best initial reference is "The Russian Monetary System" by Dr. I.G. Spassky (1967), with a wealth of photographs and an English text.

NAMES:

ИВАНЬ
ФЕДОРЬ
БОРИСЬ
ДМИТРЕ
ВАСИЛЕИ
МИХАИЛО
АЛЕКСЫ
ПЕТРЬ

IVAN
FEODOR
BORIS
DIMITRI
VACILLI
MICHAEL
ALEXEI
PETER

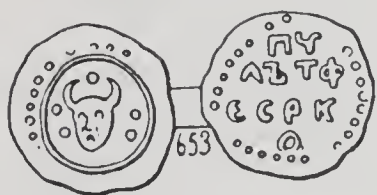


FIG. 1
Copper Pul Of
Tver

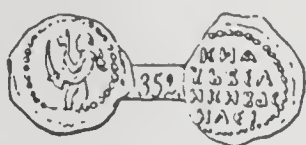


FIG. 2
Silver Denga
Of Moscow

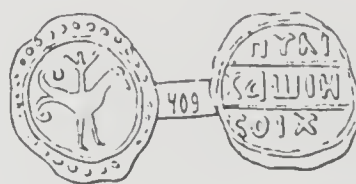


FIG. 3
Copper Pul of
Kashin

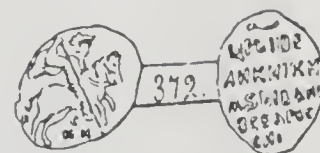


FIG. 4
Silver Denga Of
Ivan IV

GERARD ANASZEWICZ



Lowest coin

The half cent is the lowest denomination struck by the U.S. Mint.



INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN WIRE MONEY

Collecting medieval coins is challenging but rewarding. Crudity is the rule, yet such crudity lends a distinct personality to each individual piece - no two are exactly alike. Defining the medieval period for a county is difficult but the period 500-1500 A.D. is generally agreed upon. For Russia, however, the medieval period extends till 1700, when Peter I (The Great) reformed the coinage and discontinued the small, irregular shapes of metal called "wire money" that had been struck continuously since the mid 1300's. For almost four centuries these crude coins represented the major circulating medium in Russia.

Russian "wire money" is so called due to the method of manufacture. Long silver strips were rolled into wire and then cut to the proper size depending upon the weight desired. Then the wire pieces were flattened (at least in the 16th & 17th centuries), inserted in hinged dies and struck into coins. In the 14th & 15th centuries it was common for the wire to be inserted in the dies without being flattened. Thus it is rare for issues from this period to carry a complete legend or design. Other European countries hammered silver into sheets and then cut disks for use as planchets. The Russian wire method was more efficient as it avoided the waste silver expected with the use of disks. Local copper issues also exist.

Wire money was struck over two main eras. The first is the appanage or feudal period, up to the centralization of the Russian state around Moscow. The second is the czarist era, commencing with the reign of Ivan IV (The Terrible) in 1533. The coinage issued prior to Ivan IV is very rich in interesting designs. From the mid 1300's to the start of the reign of Ivan IV in 1533, the Russian political scene was a patchwork of independent principalities (city-states), each one issuing their own coins. In addition, each principality farmed coin production to a variety of sources, resulting in the use of different designs and legends for the same ruler: The multitude of designs from this period include real and mythological animals, hunting and battle scenes, horsemen, birds, angels, geometric designs, arabic, latin, and cyrillic inscriptions and human representations (see figures 1-4). As the Russian state became centralized around Moscow so too did coin production and authority follow suit. The ultimate result was the evolution of the coinage into the monotonous horseman type struck at now subservient mints located in previously independent principalities. This type was struck through the reign of Peter I. The two major denominations were the kopeck and the denga (half-kopeck).

Reading and attributing Russian wire money is not as difficult as it appears. Knowledge of the Russian language is not a prerequisite. Three key words appear on most examples of wire money. They are:

ЦРЬ
КНЗЬ
БЕЛІКН

TSAR
PRINCE
GRAND

These titles are then followed by the rulers name (see below) and patronymic (father's name) and then by *ВСЯ РYCІ* - "of all the Russians". Coins issued prior to Ivan IV's horseman type are a little more difficult to attribute due to the variety of city names used as well as the generally cruder fabric and incomplete legends.



July, 1985
Volume 37, No. 7

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held July 10th at 7:30 pm in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. Our guest speaker will be Bill Pettit and his subject "Coinage of the Holy Roman Empire Since 1500".

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1-Barbara Goldfreed, 4-Chester Poderski, 8-George Lill III, 9-Aubrey Belece, 10-Dennis Forgue, 13-Gerard Anaszewicz, Glenn Smedley, 15-Charles Farmer, 23-David Kunca, 24-William Shepard, 25-Harry Glassenberg, 27-Kurt Eckstein, David Simpson.

AUCTION TIME

Bring your consignments for the August Auction to this month's meeting. Gerry Anaszewicz has some very nice material in hand, but needs more. Help make this event a success and consign.

THANKS CARL

In the past the club has made a donation each year to the ANA Library in memory of members who passed away the previous year. Carl Wolf contributed \$25.00 in order that the club could continue the tradition, in memory of Paul Brumm and Irv Harris.

OVERDUE DUES

Twenty-six members have not paid their 1985 dues. You know who you are because there is a statement in with this CHATTER. Please pay, we need the money.

AUCTION '85

For the first time ever AUCTION '85 will be held in Chicago. This joint effort of RARCOA, Superior, Paramount, and Stacks has assembled in one sale, many rarities and condition census coins. The sale will be held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, in the Regency A room on July 26 & 27. Very few of us can afford these pieces, but attending will truly be an educational experience.

MARGO RUSSELL - SPEAKER

800TH MEETING BANQUET

The "Great Lady" of numismatics and a member of the Club, Margo Russell, has enthusiastically agreed to be our banquet speaker on September 14. Retired from Coin World after many years as their editor, Margo is an experienced speaker and her address promises to be very informative.

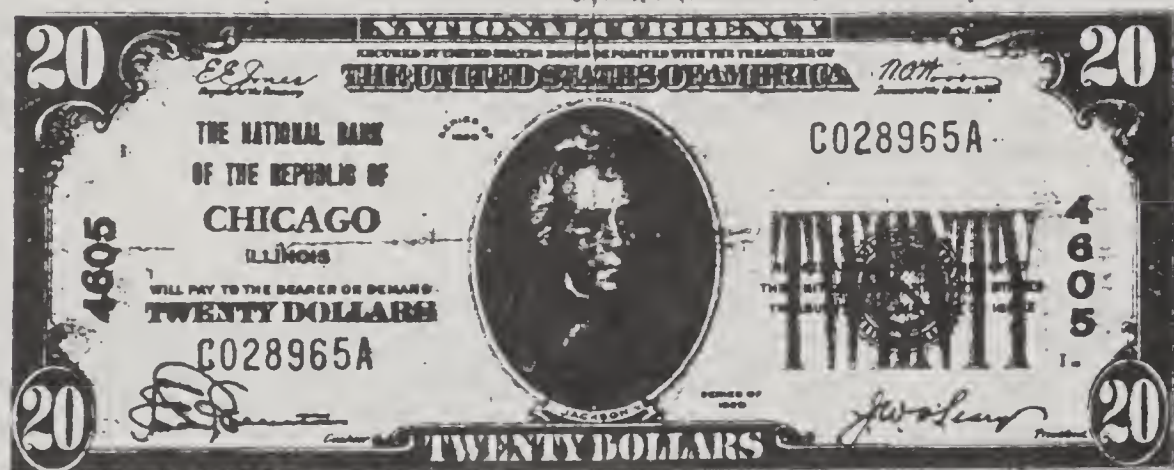
Bowers and Merena Galleries, Krause Publications, and Art Kagin have generously donated a fine selection of numismatic books which will be used as door prizes.

The banquet committee is asking for financial assistance. These funds will be used to pay for a few extra items which always give a banquet an added "flair." If you can make a donation, send it to the Club's P. O. box and mark the memo portion of your check "Banquet Donation."

Mark your calender now for this milestone event: Saturday, September 14, 1985, 7 P.M., Midland Hotel, 172 W. Adams Street, \$15.00 per person.

Reprinted from Rare Coin Review No. 56, Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.

The Grand Mogul?



Readers of the book *Virgil Brand: The Man and His Era. Profile of a Numismatist* may recall that following the death of Virgil M. Brand in 1926, his heirs hoped to arrange a sale of the entire collection through the mysterious "grand mogul," a personage identified in correspondence only as a politically powerful individual with strong connections in Washington, but who lived in Illinois.

The identity of the "grand mogul" was a subject of discussion among various research consultants for the Brand biography, and no sure-fire candidates were unearthed prior to the publication date. Now, reader William B. Swoger, who runs Little Caesar's Coin and Stamp Emporium out in Michigan, sends us a \$20 bill issued by The National Bank of the Republic of Chicago, Illinois, bearing the signature of J.W. O'Leary and suggests that O'Leary may indeed have been the "grand mogul." Bill Swoger also encloses a biography, which we reprint here with

"John William O'Leary, son of Arthur John and Emma S. (Hunt) O'Leary, was born in Chicago, Illinois, July 9, 1875. He attended Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago and received his M.E. at Cornell University in N.Y. in 1899. He married Alice Estelle Smith in 1901.

"From the beginning of his career, he was identified with Kelly Steel Works, a business which his father had founded. He was the president of the Chicago Association of Commerce (1916-18); a member of President Wilson's 1st Industrial Conference; president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce (1925-27); appointed by President Coolidge, U.S. delegate to the International Economic Conference in Geneva in 1927, vice-treasurer of the Republican National Committee of the Hoover Campaign (1928-32); president of the National Metal Traders Association, Chairman of the Industry Members War Labor Board, director of the Chicago Great Western Railroad and

president of the National Bank of the Republic of Chicago.

"As president of the above bank, he was an aggressive individual. In 1924 the National Bank of the Republic assumed the National City Bank of Chicago. In 1927 the Standard Trust and Savings Bank and in 1929 the Teter State Bank were also assumed by Republic.

"His interest in Roy Owen West is also a key to his identity: Both were on the Republican National Committee 1928-1932; West was one of the two delegates from Illinois. West was appointed Secretary, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, July 25, 1928. Apparently his confirmation was held up because of the new awareness of the sensitivity of this post due to the "Teapot Dome" scandal. During this time Harry Sinclair and Albert B. Fall were going to trial."

Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of June 12, 1985

The 797th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Needleman with 28 members and 3 guests present. The guests for the evening were Chris and Sylvia Smith and Dave Henkle. The May minutes were read and approved with the following correction: the ANA will hold a round table meeting in conjunction with the 800th Meeting Banquet and not an Educational Forum. The Treasurer's Reports for April and May were read and approved. The speaker for the evening was Don Valenziano, who spoke on Colonial Massachusetts' Half Cents. A Board Meeting was held and the members were provided with a recap of the meeting. One of the major items were anticipated By-Law changes involving deleting specific reference to the amount of membership dues and inserting instead a phrase such as "The Board will determine the dues" so that dues can be changed when needed without a change in the By-Laws. The Archivist position will also be incorporated into the By-Laws. There were second readings for John Burhard and Peter Jorstad with both being accepted for membership into the Club. The 800th Meeting Banquet Report indicated that the site will be at the Midland Hotel and that the main course will be Chicken Kiev with a cost of \$15.00 per person. Members that plan to attend the Banquet were requested to start sending in their payments as soon as possible. Harry and Tillie Roosel are generously subsidizing the cost of the Banquet in order to keep the ticket price at only \$15.00 per person. Charles Ricard and Carl Wolf will also be collecting donations to help subsidize the cost of the Banquet. Members were requested to contact them if they wish to donate something for the Banquet. The Banquet will be on Saturday, September 14. The Medal Report was read and indicated that an order for the medal has been placed with no problems anticipated in having the medals ready for the 800th meeting. Tom Delorey will be handling this item in the absence of George Lill. The Book Report was read and indicated that they are ready to sign a contract with a publisher with total cost for the volumes in soft cover estimated at \$6000. An anonymous donor has generously agreed to donate \$5000 to the Club to help subsidize the cost of the Book. The books will be sold at \$10 to \$12 plus shipping costs. The members approved signing the contracts but only after the donation is received or a firm commitment in writing is provided. ANA Educational Awards were presented to Harry Flower and in absentia to Robert Greenstein and Andy Singer for their speaker presentations before the Club. Details were provided on the auction to be held at the August meeting, see the June issue of the Chatter for details. An announcement was made that the Board has voted on increasing dues to the following levels:

Regular Member	\$7.50
Associate Member	2.50
Non-Resident Member	7.50
Junior Member	2.50

A vote on the dues increases will be held at the July meeting. In addition, in the future, it will be required that in order for someone to obtain membership in the Club, they will be required to appear at least at one meeting, regardless of which membership class they are applying for. The Archival Report mentioned that in 1922 CCC member William Dunham donated to each Club member a piece of ancient Chinese Knife money and in 1947, Mr. McDermott attended a Club meeting with his exhibit consisting of a 1913 Liberty Head nickel along with other rare items. The Chatter editor requested members to submit articles to the Chatter and mentioned

that the Chatter is also open for advertising with members requested to contact the Editor for a fee schedule. The exhibitors for the evening were (in order of presentation): G. Anaszewicz - Coin of Ryazan(Russia), R. Leonard - Early Bronze money of Agrigentum, Sicily, and a token of Cat Cay, Bahamas, S. Helfer - a sample card catalog of references, G. Lill - a 10 Emalangeni of Swaziland, G. Hudrlik - two 1836 U.S. Half Dollars, W. Baker - A glass token from Roman Egypt, S. Needleman - an 8 reales of Charles IV, C. Ricard - an 1877-S U.S. Trade Dollar, D. Henkle - 1835 Chile 1/2 centavo coins and two tokens issued around 1900 by the Compania Salitrera Alemania, D. Simpson - a Scottish coin book from the 1700's, H. Boosel - money found with a metal detector, H. Flower - an Einstein medal showing the spiral galaxy on reverse, A. Michyeta - a copy of a 1773 Colonial Penny, and a 1985 Silver Proof from Wales. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

William A. Baker

William A. Baker
Secretary/Treasurer

Mobster's cash may be in hotel

The "legacy" of Chicago mobster Al Capone may never be found, despite the near certainty that the 93-year-old Lexington Hotel on the city's South Side, once Capone's headquarters, has a vault hidden behind its walls.

The hotel was purchased last year by the Sunbow Foundation, a non-profit organization that trains low-income women in the construction and building maintenance trades. Patricia Porter, founder and executive director of the foundation, said her organization cannot search for the vault, even if there is one.

She has been considering the

project since January, led on by the possibility that a vault, concealed behind the hotel's walls might be bulging with money. She mentioned that \$50,000 in gold and certificates were found in a house used by Capone in Lima, Ohio.

Ms. Porter subsequently learned, however, that her foundation, which is publicly financed, cannot use money to look for hidden vaults, even though they might be filled with cash.

The Sunbow Foundation purchased the 10-story hotel for

\$500,000, and is rehabilitating it into an apartment house. The executive director said a structural engineer used by her architect surveyed the area and said that the way the wall is built suggests that there is a vault inside. There is no way, though, to know what's behind the walls without breaking them down.

For these same reasons, it is unlikely that the secret stairways and tunnels alleged to have been installed in the hotel by Capone will ever be found.



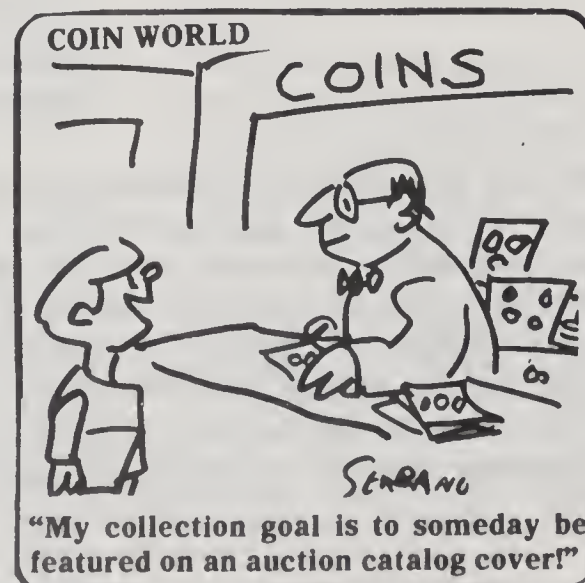
Beneath wreath

From 1932 to 1964, the Mint mark on the U.S. quarter appeared beneath the wreath on the coin's reverse.



Many designs

The Seated Liberty is just one of the many coins designed by Christian Gobrecht. The design was used on most silver coins until 1891.



August, 1985
Volume 37, No. 8

Don Valenziano Jr., Editor



Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held August 14th at 7:30pm in Suite 1510, 208 S. LaSalle. A members benefit auction will be featured. Please attend and bring a friend.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2-William Swoger, 7-William Holm, 9-Leonard Stark, 15-Darrell Prince & Richard Yeoman, 16-Mike Williams, 19- Carl Wolf, 22-Gordon Byrd, 23-Thomas Michell, 26-Tom LeForey & Donald Doswell, 31-Clarence Wills & Simeon Wilson.

800TH MEETING BANQUET

Saturday, September 14, 1985

Our 800th Meeting Banquet is one of the largest affairs the Club has planned in many years and much planning is going into making this a memorable event.

The Adams Room of the Midland Hotel will be the site which begins at 6 P.M. with cocktails. Chicken Kiev will be the main course of dinner which will be served at 7 P.M. Margo Russell, Club member and former Coin World editor for many years, will be the featured speaker.

The suppliers of our medal and book have promised that they should be ready for distribution at this milestone event and a variety of custom banquet favors will also compliment the evening. Doorprizes will be the ten books which have been donated by Q. David Bowers, Arthur Kagin and Krause Publications. They are:

Virgil Brand: The Man and His Era

1985 Standard Catalog of World Coins

Standard Catalog of United States Paper Money

History of United States Coinage: As Illustrated
by the Garrett Collection

United States Gold Coins: An Illustrated History

Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States

Donald Kagin's Personal Guide to Rare Coin Investments

It's an occasion which shouldn't be missed. Formal invitations were mailed last week. If you know of some member who hasn't been to a meeting in some time, then give him or her a telephone call and encourage him to attend. We are expecting a large turnout, so do as some have already done by returning your response card early.

Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of July 10, 1985

The 798th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:38 p.m. by President Needleman with 26 members and 6 guests present. The guests for the evening were Phyllis and Jeff Pettit, Jean Hardwidge, Chris Smith, Jean Rzepka and Phyllis Johnson. Also, in attendance were long time members Charlotte Nagy and Leah Klein. The June minutes were read and approved with the following clarifications: Harry X and Tillie Boosel will be subsidizing the cost of the banquet by paying for the cost of the dinner that is in excess of \$15 per person and the donations being collected by Charles Ricard and Carl Wolf will be used to purchase extra accessories and memorabilia for the banquet. The Treasurer's Report for June was read and approved. The speaker for the meeting was Bill Pettit, who spoke on Coinage of the Holy Roman Empire Since 1500. The 800th Meeting Medal Report was made with the following motions approved: 1) To limit the medals struck to 175 bronze finish, 75 silver (copper-nickle) finish plus the number of gold and silver medal orders placed with Tom Delorey by July 19; (2) Purchase of gold and silver medals is restricted to CCC members; (3) Preference for the purchase of medals will be given to CCC members until the date of the banquet at which time sale of the medals will be open to the public; (4) Tom was authorized to place the order if he finds everything satisfactory. Delivery is expected two weeks after the order is placed. The changes to the By-Laws announced in the June minutes were approved. The dues increases (mentioned in the June Minutes) were approved with the Board to discuss further the different membership classifications and the requirements of membership. It was announced that you may bring consignments to the Club's August meeting for the auction to be held in conjunction with that meeting. Minimum bids on consignments are acceptable. It was announced that the 800th meeting book is nearly complete and should be ready for the 800th meeting. The 800th Meeting Banquet Report was given with an announcement made that formal invitations will be sent out and that Margo Russell will be the banquet speaker. All members desiring to attend were requested to pay for their tickets in advance. Cost is \$15 per person. Harry X Boosel announced that Ruthann Brettell will become the Executive Director of the ANA. The Archival Report covered the Club's activities during National Coin Week in 1984. The exhibitors for the evening were: Bruno Rzepka - 3 Souvenir Cards showing paper money and a sheet of four \$1 notes; Andrew Michyeta - 2 Shooting Talers; Saul Needleman - 3 English Coins, 2 of James I and 1 of Charles I; William Baker - a Roman bronze coin of Honorius with facing portrait; Gerald Anaszewicz - 2 cowrie shells and 1 coin of Armavir (Russia); Chester Poderski - 3 pieces advertising the ANA Convention and National Coin Week; Robert Leonard - a "Dime Chain Letter", a deluxe edition of Breen's Look on California Gold and a Krause Publications' dedication souvenir; Harry Flower - 9 pieces of Israel paper money. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



William A. Baker
Secretary/Treasurer

WHEN MONEY GREW ON TREES

by Carl F. Wolf

Cacao beans, the source of chocolate, are harvested from pods produced by cacao trees which grow from twenty to forty feet in Mexican soil. The Aztec Indians believed that cacao (Pronounced: ka-KAY-oe) was bestowed on them as a heavenly gift from Quetzalcoatl, the god of air. Evidence shows that by the 12th century they had already converted cacao into a drink called xocolatl. So precious did the Aztec's consider xocolatl that it was reserved for the aristocracy only. Prized even higher than gold, the drink was served in golden goblets which were thrown away after one use.

Christopher Columbus was the first European to come across the cacao beans, but he ignored them. Herman Cortes followed twenty years later and the Aztec's shared with him their prestigious xocolatl beverage. When he returned to Spain in 1528, he carried back cacao beans and introduced the drinking of chocolate to Europe.

To the numismatist, however, Cortes discovered something far more interesting about the cacao beans. The Aztecs used it as currency (about 100 beans would buy a slave). So impressed was Cortes, never one to let money slip between his fingers, he took beans and sowed them on Trinidad, Haiti and the West African island of Bioko, thus creating "money plantations."

Which just goes to illustrate the wishful notion that money can grow on trees.

Credit for this article is given as follows: Copyright 1984 by PostScript (November issue) and National Geographic (November, 1984).

COIN WORLD, Wednesday, July 31, 1985

3



Harry X Boosel presents 1873 so-called dollar to ANA President Q. David Bowers in front of the coin press on which it was struck which is on permanent loan to the ANA from the United States Mint.

A.N.A. NUMISMATIC FESTIVAL & ROUNDTABLE COMING TO CHICAGO

The American Numismatic Association will be coming to Chicago September 12-14, to sponsor a Numismatic Festival and Roundtable in conjunction with our 800th meeting.

In a recent interview, Executive V.P. Edward Rochette said that the festival will begin Thursday evening, September 12 at the Midland Hotel where everyone can get acquainted over cocktails and dinner.

On Friday morning everyone will travel by bus to the Balzeckas Museum of Lithuanian Culture to view the world's largest collection of Lithuanian coins and currency, much of which was donated by Dr. Alexander M. Rackus, a Charter Member of the Chicago Coin Club. After a luncheon, the tour will continue on to the studio of Lorado Taft at the University of Chicago. Ms. Taft (1860-1936) was a noted American sculptor who designed many medals and had at least two students go on to distinguish themselves by designing commemorative coins. Dinner will be served after the tour.

The Chicago Science & Industry Museum will be toured Saturday morning. Following a lecture on their Banking & Commerce Exhibit, a luncheon will be served.

Saturday afternoon the A.N.A. will conduct a roundtable discussion which is open to everyone. This will be a unique opportunity to give input on the direction the hobby and the Association should be taking. The discussion will be chaired by the Association President and every Club member is strongly urged to attend and express his or her opinion. The evening will culminate with our 800th Meeting Banquet.

If you and your friends are interested in attending any or all of these A.N.A. affairs, you should call or write to:

American Numismatic Association
P.O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Judy Stebenne
(303)632-2646

As this publicity is coming out rather late, we ask that you announce this event at every Chicago area club meeting you will be attending over the next month.

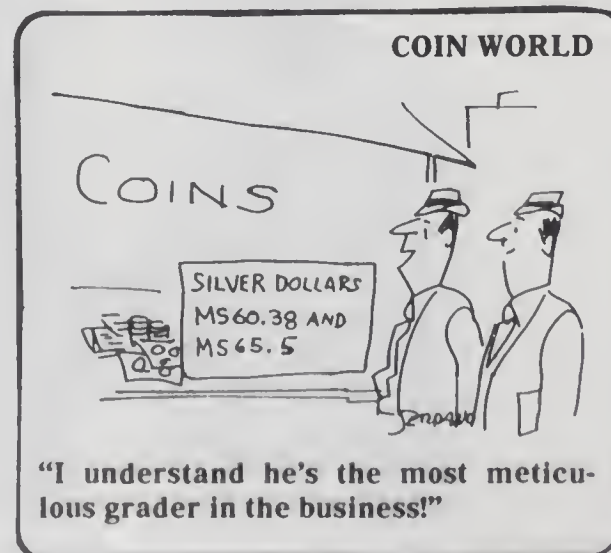
Reports cent variety

The June issue of the *Error-Variety News/Numismistake* features a report by Bill Fivaz on his discovery of a "transitional" 1857 Flying Eagle cent, with the obverse lettering found on the 1856.

Del Romines continues his study of doubled die discoveries, and Don Bonser describes

local error finds he has made. Publisher "Lonesome" John Devine also discusses varieties he has found.

Subscription rates to *Error-Variety News* are \$12.50 annually. Remittances should be sent to 3475 Old Conejo Road, C-6, Newbury Park, Calif. 91320.





October, 1985
Volume 37, No. 9
Don Valenziano, Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

NEXT MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 7:30 P.M.

MIDLAND HOTEL
176 W. ADAMS
ADLER ROOM, LOWER LEVEL

SPEAKER: NEIL HARRIS
"THE LIFE AND WORKS OF JOHN R. SINNOCK"

Our October program will be guest speaker, Neil Harris, editor of The Numismatist. The subject of his talk will be John Sinnock, the Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint from 1925-47. Mr. Sinnock designed this country's 1926 Sesquicentennial of American Independence quarter eagle and half dollar. He also designed the Roosevelt dime and the 1918 Lincoln-Illinois Centennial commemorative half dollar. A prolific designer, Mr. Sinnock went on to design 80 medals in the governmental series and about 100 privately commissioned medals for large corporations which are important in the world of award medals.

Some years ago, Mr. Sinnock's personal papers were donated to the A.N.A. and Mr. Harris has been fortunate to have access to them. Mr. Sinnock was an under-publicized designer and Mr. Harris reports several or more medals to his credit have not been found.

Mr. Harris is an engraver himself, is a member of the American Medallic Sculpture Association and serves on their Board of Governors.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10, Harry Schwimmer, 12 Glen Hudrlik and Frank Zaylick, 14 Joel Reznick and Marcella Sheldon, 15 Frank Malinowski, 16 Harry Flower and Paula Rezutko, 17 Margo Russell, 18 John Manus, 19 Phillis Eisenberg and Chester Michals.

SILVER MEDALS STILL AVAILABLE

This is the last chance you will have to order an 800th Meeting medal in Silver. If you can not attend the meeting send in your check now. Checks must be recieved no later than October 20th.



800TH MEETING MEMORABILIA - ORDER BY MAIL

PHOTOGRAPHS:

If you were at the Banquet on September 14th, you went away with your pockets bulging. All kinds of memorabilia was created, such as: a souvenir banquet ticket, souvenir card, napkins, program, matchbooks and ribbons. You probably also noticed our Club Reporter, David Simpson working very hard taking a number of photographs. If you will not be attending the October meeting, you can order a number of these photographs by mail and make your collection of memorabilia complete. Fill out the enclosed form and list on the reverse side which and how many of the photographs you desire. We have photos of every one of the twelve tables plus the head table, a close-up of Margo Russell delivering her speech, the head table with Margo at the podium, a group photo of the seven past-presidents in attendance and another with the past-presidents and A.N.A. President Florence Schook.

800TH MEETING BOOK: "PERSPECTIVES IN NUMISMATICS"

Another piece of memorabilia which you are sure to enjoy and treasure for years to come is the book which the Club members compiled. It's over 300 pages and consists of nineteen chapters, each written by different authors on different phases of numismatics. A number of the authors are internationally eminent and it is quite doubtful that you will ever be able to find a better book with such a fine collection of essays at such a reasonable price. Authors such as: DAVID SEAR, Q. DAVID BOWERS, CORY GILLILLAND, COURTNEY COFFING, RICHARD DOTY, ERIC NEWMANN, ELVIRA CLAIN-STEFANELLI. Mr. Red Book himself, RICHARD YEOMAN, wrote a most interesting introduction dealing with his memories of the Chicago Coin Club and the friends he made. The last chapter is the History of the Chicago Coin Club which is probably the most detailed and complete history of any local coin club. The Club's long-time members will probably enjoy reminiscing when they come across stories of certain events and read the names of members who they haven't thought of in years. The newer members will enjoy the history and become aware of the Club's rich past. The Club's history is something to cherish and everyone is encouraged to read this chapter.

800TH MEETING MEDAL

A good supply of bronze and silver plate medals are ready for shipment. A second order will be placed for the 2 oz. .999 silver medals and only those ordered and paid for will be produced. If you wish one of these .999 silver medals - don't delay - order now!

The medals are quite attractive with the obverse showing a portrait of Janus, the ancient Roman god of beginnings. His double head looks to the past and the future symbolizing the Club members as we look to our rich history and traditions with respect while at the same time maintaining a focus on the future. The Club's name appears at the top and below is a quotation from Shakespeare's play "The Tempest," "WHAT'S PAST IS PROLOGUE," expressing the Club's continuity with the past which is viewed as a beginning.

The reverse illustrates the Club's emphasis on education with the primary focus directed to three books. One is open & rests atop the others. Across the left page is the Club's Latin motto DOCENDO DISCIMUS (We Learn By Teaching). From the top left & extending across the open book is a branch from the Tree of Knowledge & the fruit it bears represents the benefits received by the members through education. To the right, the Path of Knowledge leads from the books to a rising sun, symbolizing enlightenment through education.



November, 1985
Volume 37, No. 10
Don Valenziano, Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held November 13th, 7:30 pm, at the Midland Hotel 176 West Adams. Guest speaker for the evening will be C.C.C. member George Lill III informing us on the effects of inflation on a Third World Nation. Please attend.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

Article III, Section 2

The Annual dues shall be; Regular Members, Five (\$5.00) Dollars: Associate Members, One (\$1.00) Dollar: Non-Resident Members, two and 50/100 (\$2.00) Dollars; Two and 50/100 (\$2.50) Dollars.

Change to read.

All membership dues shall be payable in advance, in amounts to be determined by the Board of Governors.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4, Stewart Koppel, 7, Richard Peterson, 8, Brian Heil, 9, Tom Ryan, 14, Nancy Baker, 18 Margaret Gobbick, 24, Jeffrey Bernberg, 29, William Baker.

4 Section 1 Chicago Tribune, Friday, September 27, 1985

Newsmakers

English cowshed yields 300-year-old treasure

THIRSK, England [AP]—A farmer and his helper found a crock containing more than 1,500 gold and silver coins that apparently had been buried in a Yorkshire cowshed for 300 years. But a coroner's inquest ruled that the treasure belongs to the crown.

The coins—30 gold and the rest silver—glinted in the soil and were pulled out of the ground by farmer Christopher Greensit and laborer Brian Robinson, who were repairing the shed at Castle Farm near Thirsk. The oldest coin was dated 1560, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

An inquest jury, convened by law when a treasure's owner is unknown, declared this week

that the coins were crown property. The hoard will go to the British Museum, which said the finders will receive several thousand dollars in compensation.

"They are no good to me, and I don't know what to expect. But they were a once-in-a-lifetime find," Greensit said.

Experts testified that a terrified landowner probably buried the hoard during the 1640s civil war between King Charles I and Oliver Cromwell.

Two paper receipts for cheese sold to the Royalist army also were in the pot, which could have meant a hard time for the owner if Cromwell's forces had found them.

Chicago Coin Club
Minutes of September 14, 1985

The 800th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by President Needleman with 62 members and 46 guests present. Numismatic notables in attendance were: Florence Schook--President ANA; Ruthann Brettell--ANA Executive Director; Ken Bressett--Education Director ANA, Marjorie Owen-Hendershoot--Secretary/Treasurer CSNS; Beth Deisher--Coin World Editor; Margo Russell--former Editor of Coin World; David Harper and Bill Pettit--Numismatic News; and Roger Boye--Chicago Tribune. A motion was made and passed that the usual order of business be dispensed with. The guest for the evening was Margo Russell who contrasted 1919 with 1985 and provided her opinion as to ways of increasing interest in coins among non-collectors. Gerard Anaszewicz discussed the significance of the Club's 800th Meeting Medal and presented one to Margo in appreciation for her being guest speaker. A set of three 800th Meeting medals was presented to Florence Schook for the ANA Museum. Florence presented to the Club a plaque in recognition of the Club's 800th meeting. President Needleman thanked those connected with the 800th Meeting activities for their efforts. Carl Wolf introduced the following past presidents and medal of merit winners in attendance: Saul Needleman, Gerda Birkholz, Charles Ryant, Bill Pettit, Jim Budd, Jim Babka, Harry X Boosel, Leah Klein and Chet Poderski. Charles Ricard presented to the Club a Certificate of Appreciation from the Polish American Numismatic Association in recognition of the Club's invaluable services in promoting numismatics. Charles then announced the door prize winners for the evening. A first reading for membership was given for Phil Gork. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William A. Baker

William A. Baker
Secretary/Treasurer

CHICAGO COIN CLUB - 800TH MEETING MEMORABILIA

"PERSPECTIVES IN NUMISMATICS," HARDCOVER	_____	\$25.00 a = _____
SOFTCOVER	_____	\$15.00 a = _____
800TH MEETING MEDAL, BRONZE	_____	\$ 7.50 a = _____
SILVER PLATE	_____	\$10.00 a = _____
2/02. / .999 SILVER	_____	\$10.00 a = _____
*BANQUET PHOTOGRAPHS, 3.5" X 5"	_____	\$.40 a = _____
5" X 7"	_____	\$ 2.00 a = _____
8" X 10"	_____	\$ 3.00 a = _____
	_____	SUBTOTAL = _____
MAILING COSTS: FOR EACH BOOK	_____	\$ 1.50 a = _____
FOR EACH MEDAL	_____	\$ 1.25 a = _____
FOR EACH PHOTOGRAPH	_____	\$.39 a = _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

TOTAL = _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK
FOR FULL AMOUNT,
MADE PAYABLE TO:
CHICAGO COIN CLUB

The 801st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Needleman at 7:37 PM on Wednesday evening, the ninth of October, 1985. Guests for the evening were introduced. Minutes for the September Banquet meeting were unavailable as was the September Treasurer's report. The Guest Speaker for the evening, Neil Harris, was introduced and proceeded into an informative talk and slide show presentation upon the Little Known Numismatic Works of John R Sinnock. 1st Readings for membership were made for Phillip Gork and Roderick Widok. 2nd reading, followed by Membership approval was made for associate status for Jean Brodsky. The Banquet Chairman reported upon the success of the 800th Meeting banquet and that for this evening only orders could be placed for copies of photos taken during the course of the Banquet. The Medal Chairman reminded members that this was their last chance to order .999 silver medals and that to date approximately 20% of the bronze and silver plate medals had been sold. The Book Chairman reported upon the problems involved in attempting to bring the 800th Meeting book to print. The Archivist talked about and showed the various correspondence and certificates pertaining to varying Life Membership numbers that the CCC has held during its relationship with the ANA. Guest Mary Thompson, formerly with the ANA, confirmed suspicions that when the ANA had decided to assign a separate set of numbers to Life Memberships for Clubs, that rather than being done in the order in which Clubs had originally joined, that it had been done on a random selection basis thus robbing Club Life Membership number 1 from the CCC which it rightfully deserves. The President reminded all committee chairmen that the year end was rapidly drawing to a close and that their written rules and guidelines were due soon. It was moved, seconded and passed by the Membership to present a set of two 800th Meeting medals to the American Numismatic Society for its museum collection. The members were reminded that due to the 800th banquet that there would be no Xmas banquet this year. Exhibits for the evening were: (2) Russian twice overstruck 5 kopek coins, Memorabilia of Bermuda, Souvenirs made from Australian coins by WW I soldiers, a piece of copper hide money from a Chimu grave in Peru, (2) bronze medals showing the Marc Chagall windows, a grouping of Masonic medals, a grouping of recent Mexican coins and a grouping of Argentine banknotes showing the effects of inflation on the country's monetary system. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectively Submitted

George Lill III
Acting Secretary



Importation of the South African gold Krugerrand has been banned by the banking industry in Austria by mutual agreement with the government. Within two weeks of this agreement the U.S. acted to also ban the coin from importation to this country.



Archaeologist's home to house Greek cabinet

Greece's numismatic collection, which began with the Heinrich Schliemann collection, will be housed in Schliemann's 19th century Athens home once restoration is completed.

Schliemann is best remembered as the self-taught archaeologist who discovered the ruins of ancient Troy. He owned a collection of over 1,300 ancient coins which upon his death were willed to the Greek state in 1890.

The building was built for Schliemann as a mixture of Italian Renaissance and Athenian architecture. Today it is one of the few architectural splendors in Athens from the late 19th century.

Following the death of the German-born pastor's son, his wife, Sophia, continued to live in the mansion, eventually selling it to the government. It was used as the Supreme Court building for some years, later falling into decay.

The Culture Ministry has begun a \$1 million restoration program in preparation for housing the national numismatic collection.

The following is reprinted from Berwick Enterprise, January 7, 1939 and was written by Robert K. Botsford, Nescopeck, PA and A.N.A. District Secretary.

* * * * *

Thomas Jefferson and Monticello both find generous room to grace the new five cent piece. Yet the denomination of the coin is placed in mighty small letters below the word "Monticello."

This is certainly a radical departure from the usual run of designs on the reverse of the U.S. coins. And, with this thought in mind, it might be advisable to again bring to the fore the suggestions made by prominent Americans in the days gone by.

Benjamin Franklin, in a humorous letter to his daughter dated January 26, 1784, expressed his thoughts regarding the eagle which had been selected as the national emblem of the newly organized and constituted republic of the United States of America: "For my part I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country; he is a bird of bad moral character; he does not get his living honestly; you may see him perched on some dead tree, where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the labors of the fishing hawk; and when that diligent bird has at length taken a fish and is bearing it to his nest for the support of his mate and young the bald eagle pursues him and takes it from him.

"I am, on this account, not displeased that the figure is not known as a bald eagle, but looks like a turkey. For in truth, the turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird and withal a true original native of America. Eagles have been found in all parts of the country, but the turkey is peculiar to ours."

Have the hen replace the eagle as the American emblem was the plea of William Jennings Bryan. This orator advocated the change with this statement: "The hen is busy, thrifty and hardworking, while the eagle is a bird of prey and not typical of America."

Certain it is that the turkey and the hen are typical American birds. A clever designer could produce a design that would be of outstanding merit and show off to advantage on the reverse of one of our coins. The turkey might be placed on the reverse of the silver dollar, the hen on the reverse of the silver half dollar. Then it would be a pleasure to gather in the turkeys and the hens for the simple reason that these birds can not fly away as quickly as eagles.

National prosperity would return over night and become domesticated. Never again would the problem of our resources flying away confront us as a nation. We, Americans, would again be "Busy, Thrifty, Hard Working" as Bryan says of the hen and receive in return silver turkeys and silver hens as remuneration for our industrious efforts. Then, and only then would there be turkeys and hens in every pocket. Truly America would be "the land of the free and the home of the brave," dwelling place of the happy who dream dreams of the days to come and the glad-some return of the golden eagles.

* * * * *



December, 1985
Volume 37, Number 12
Don Valenziano, Editor

Chatter



"We Learn By Teaching"

P.O. BOX 2301/CHICAGO, IL 60690

MEETING

Our meeting will be held December 11th, 7:30 pm, at the Midland Hotel. 176 West Adams Street, in the Sullivan Room. Our guest speaker will be C.C.C. President Saul Needleman and his subject: Economics of English Coin Denominations. Please attend and bring a friend.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1-Judith Guyton, 3-Richard Martin, 6-Albert Ivan, Allen Meyer, 7-Louis Rezutko, Brian Stubbs, 9-Howard Eisenberg, 11-Philip More, Anne Urchel, 12-Juan Rodriquez, 14-Bill Grundy, 17-Allen Schechter, 21-Frank Olenicki, 23-Edward Milas, 27-Ben Odesser, 31-Harold Klein.

OBITUARY

CHESTER MICHAELS 1913 - 1985

Chester Michaels, number 763, passed away June 25th, following complications which arose after a major heart operation in March. Mr. Michaels was born and raised in Chicago and spent most of his career as a jeweler, in partnership with his brother, in the 55 E. Washington Bldg. He was a collector of proof coins and rolls and joined the Chicago Coin Club in 1962. He is survived by his wife of five years, Zsa Zsa, two sisters, two brothers, and one son. Interment was at St. Albert's Cemetery in Niles.

BRUNO MAREK 1898 - 1981

It has just come to our attention that Bruno Marek, number 256, passed away three years ago. Born in Wisconsin, Mr. Marek moved to Chicago with his parents as a child and was employed for many years by Central Typesetting. He joined the Chicago Coin Club in the 1930's and was still actively collecting up until his death on November 6, 1981 after a short illness. Mr. Marek never married and is survived by his brother, Ignatuis.

The 802nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Needleman at 7:38PM on Wednesday the 13th of November. Two guests, Martin Borshers and Emily McKnight, for the evening were introduced to the attending members while a second reading was made of Roderick Widok who was then accepted into membership. The minutes for the 800th and 801 st meetings were read and approved with the following corrections: 800th; "set of three medals" as presented to the ANA was corrected to read "set of medals" while for the 801st; the insertion of the following "Phillip Gork received his second reading and was approved for Club membership." The treasurer's reports were read and approved. A special financial report pertaining to the expenses of the 800th Meeting activities (Banquet, Book and Medal) was made to the membership. The Board's suggestion that the increasing of dues for 1986 to \$12.00 per annum was under consideration, touched off a lively discussion among the members as to the why and wherfores that expenses might be reduced or additional revenue brought into the Club coffers; member voluntary donations and free meeting locations beings some of the topics discussed. Additional comments pertaining to the topic was postponed to the December meeting at which time a final vote shall be taken. It was approved by the membership present to accept no 1986 dues until such time as the dues structure had been established. The suggested change in the By-laws was approved as amended: "All membership dues shall be payable in amounts to be recommended by the Board of Governors and as approved by a simple majority of the membership attending a regular meeting." The president appointed Joel Reznick and Robert Leonard to a committee to write the rules for establishing the C.C.C. Literary Award. It was approved by the membership to remove any designation of "Silver" or "Bronze" from the First Place and Runner Up Cabeen Exhibit Awards. It was approved by a large majority of the membership to postpone the guest speakers presentation to another meeting due to the lateness of the hour. The exhibits for the evening were; (2) silver aspers of the Trebizond Empire, Replicas of the California \$50 gold slugs, several bronze imitations of Cladius I as well as an original Minerva As and examples of stages of degradation, a counterfeit gold 1646 Irish Pistole and an even rarer lead die trial strike, a "Run for Liberty II" made from Statue of Liberty copper medal, a Hugo Bruckner and 4 presidential medals, a number of Judaic medals and tokens, a complete set of Franklin Mint 1968 gaming tokens, a 50 Zlotych Polish 1972 proof, a Brandenburg-Ansbach 1765 taler, a 16th century Jerer taler and a Pilgrim Jubilee medal of 1870. It was moved and approved by the membership to adjourne the meeting at 9:52PM.

Respectfully Submitted

William Baker
Secretary